

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 1, line 3:

RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a 35 U.S.C. 371 application of international application number PCT/IB2004/050460, filed on April 15, 2004, which claims priority to German application numbers 103 17 798.1 filed on April 16, 2003 and 102004001613.5 filed on January 9, 2004, the contents of which are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF INVENTION

Please add the following new section heading after the paragraph ending at page 1, line 7:

BACKGROUND

Please add the following new section heading after the paragraph ending at page 3, line 2:

SUMMARY

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph ending at page 3, line 27:

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING

Figure 1 is a schematic drawing of a frontal tensile die.

Figure 2 is a schematic illustration of different surface contours in a microtome section analysis after different pre-treatments.

Figure 3 includes scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images (1,500 fold and 3,000 fold) from microtome section investigations according to the present invention.

Figure 4 includes SEM images (1,500 fold and 3,000 fold) from microtome section investigations according to the state of the art.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION